



The Creative Woodturner: Inspiring Ideas and Projects for Developing Your Own Woodturning Style

Terry Martin

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Woodturning is as popular as ever -- a constantly growing segment in the woodworking world and one of the most wide-reaching woodcrafts among artists and hands-on crafters. Its appeal is based on the short learning curve, the minimal equipment, and the sheer joy of learning to make something out of wood with one's own hands. But, unlike a lot of crafts that rely on individuality and creative thinking, the initial techniques of woodturning must be mastered. While at first liberating, these same techniques can eventually be confining because in mastering them, one must follow the lead of others. At a certain point, woodturners can feel that mastering the techniques has become the end in itself as they lose sight of their true pursuit: to create one's own original style. In fact, some woodturners, who believe they aren't creative enough, will simply continue to master techniques while imitating the style of others. Terry Martin, the author of *The Creative Woodturner* and a woodturning artist, instructor, and photographer for over thirty-years, believes this goes against the fundamental nature of creating and being an artist. There is no "right" or "wrong" and the pursuit of originality should be the goal of every woodturner. Best of all, creativity can be learned and the ability to think and see in one's own artistic style can be achieved. *The Creative Woodturner* is not your usual "how-to" woodturning book. It won't tell you what a chuck is, how to sharpen a scraper, or how to turn a goblet. Instead, this book is a "how-to" for unlocking curiosity, how to break the rules, and for following one's own artistic path with confidence. Designed to give readers a wide perspective on creativity, *The Creative Woodturner* begins first with insightful commentary, quotes, and examples from the woodturning and art community that will both inspire and inform. In addition, the author shares his Idea Tools: questions to ask during the planning and creative process that are as important to the creation of the woodturning project as any equipment in the shop. Finally, 16 one-of-a-kind projects -- from boxes and vessels to bowls and one-of-a-kind sculptures -- are featured that will spark the creative mindset of any woodturner. Each project is documented with instructions and crisp photography highlighting the key steps, techniques, and tasks necessary for completion. In taking the reader through each project, the author pulls back the curtain on his woodturning magic and shares his vision and how the Idea Tools and creative thinking emerges in each project. An inspiring and enjoyable read not only for woodturners, but for any artist, *The Creative Woodturner* will anyone to think and see differently so time is spent at the lathe -- or whatever creative pursuit it is -- creating the original ideas instead of imitating someone else.

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